



The amazing History of Munich

A Bridge

Munich (german “München”) means at the Monks (“bei den Mönchen”), because it was founded near a settlement of Benedictine monks. Munich was founded 1158 a.d. by Guelph Henry the Lion, Duke of Saxony and Bavaria as he built a bridge over the Isar on the salt-treading-route to take taxes. Next to the bridge he also build an marketplace, which led to the first settlers of Munich. In 1175, Munich became a official city and got fortification. In 1190, the first church, Peterskirche (picture left, nowadays) was built, which gained Munich even more popularity and settlers.



Medieval Times

In 1255, the Duchy of Bavaria was split in two parts, and Munich became ducal residence of upper Bavaria. In 1328, Louis IV elected King of Germany in 1314 became the Holy roman Emperor, and strengthened Munich very much. In 1468, the cathedral Frauenkirche (picture left) was constructed, which now is a landmark and symbol of Munich.



Development

At the Reunion of Bavaria in 1506, Munich became its capital. Many wars such as the thirty-years-war could not stop Munich's growth. Munich got capital of art for southern Germany and was very attractive for famous artists like Mozart and Wagner. 300 Years later, in 1806 Munich became capital of the Kingdom of Bavaria. Therefore the Parliament was build which, at the federal union of germany became the still functional Landtag (State Diet, picture left).



Modern Times

During the two world wars Munich was destroyed, although now rebuilt. It continued to grow, and in 1957, reached 1 000 000 citizens. In 1978 Munich hosted the Olympic Games and in 2011, Munich got its status as 4th worldwide by the quality of life. Today Munich has about 1 400 000 citizens. The popular growth is shown on the Picture beneath. (x - year, y - population)

